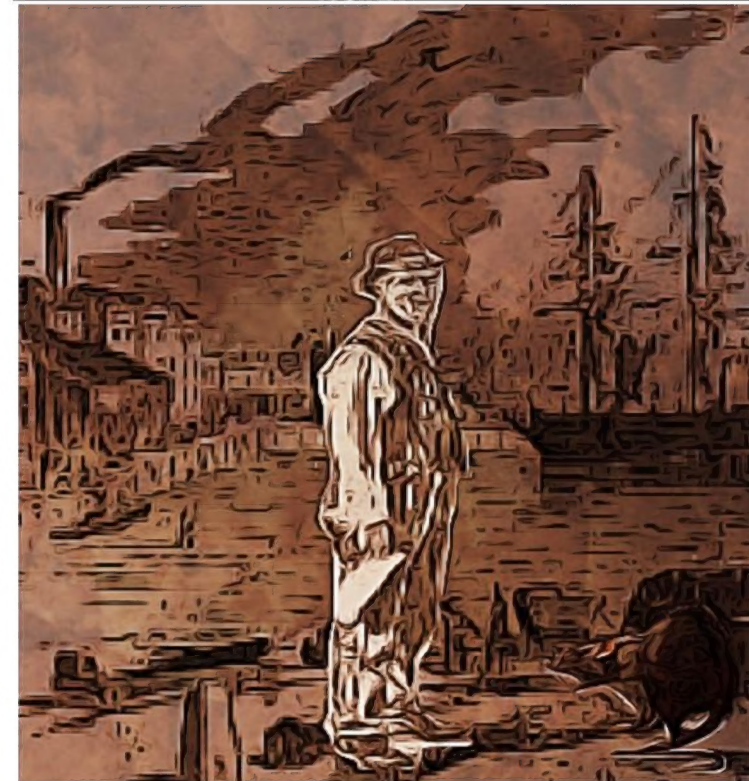


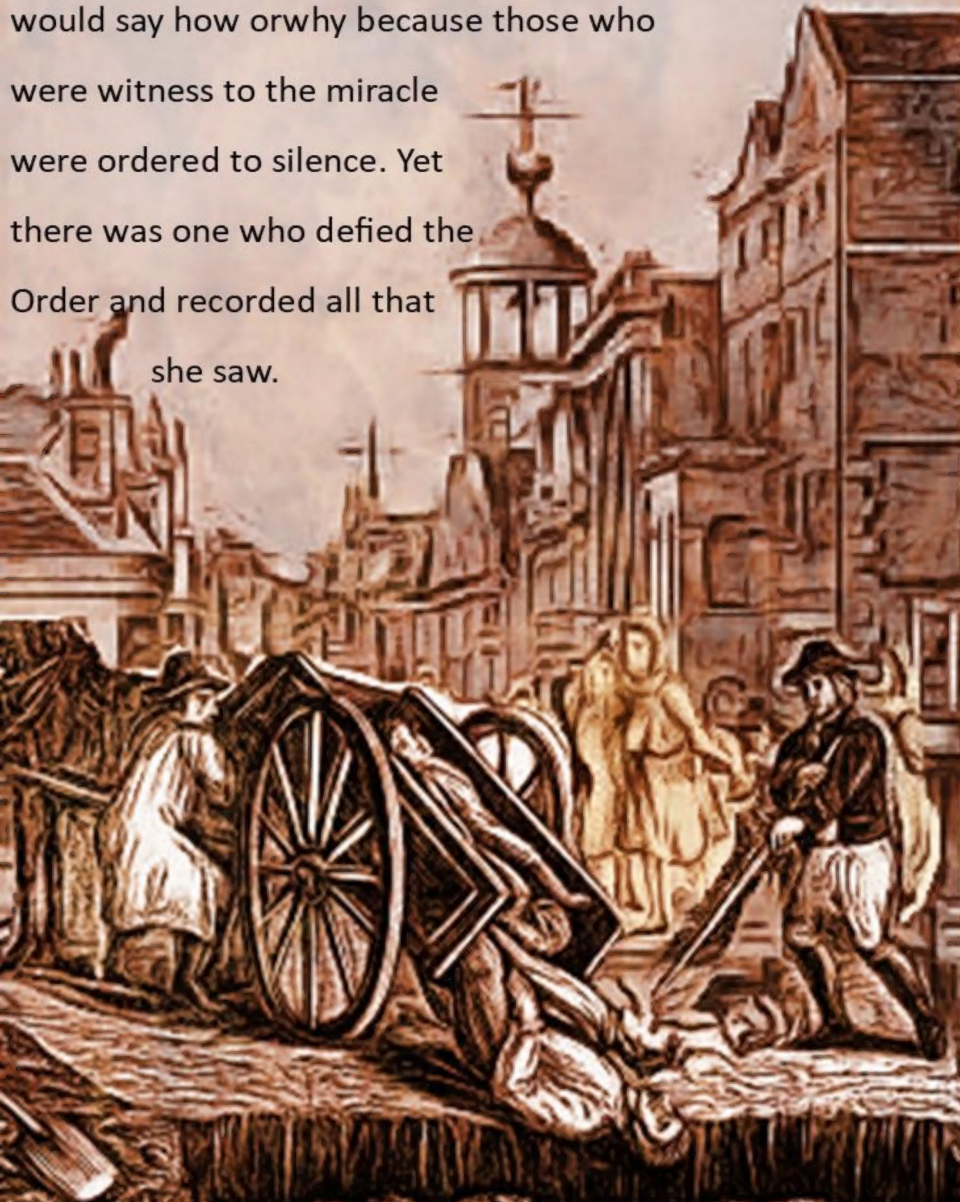
Long ago, far across the sea in the medieval town of Weymouth another story arose in the midst, near its end, of the great and notorious Black Plague that somehow was misplaced in the passage of time, but not lost. It was a grim reflection and much darker, of a tale that happened sixty five years before in the village of Hamelin. It is a tale in fact that marked the end of the plague, perhaps in a way historians over looked or hid, since magic was even then frowned upon.

Historians of the day told of a seaman who came from Gascony who brought in his body the black death and that might be true in part, but as news is twisted today it was so then as well, for the rulers of the time did not want the idea of magic, black or white to spread as violently as the plague itself.



The plague spread across the town and throughout the country killing anyone it touched and in Weymouth itself nearly six percent of the population perished before it was all over. Then quite suddenly it stopped though no one would say how or why because those who

were witness to the miracle were ordered to silence. Yet there was one who defied the Order and recorded all that she saw.



So many have died in these wretched months that the black sickness has plagued our town. It is a miracle that any survived and those who did may not have if not for another miracle, though our leaders brought upon us another devastation by their reneging way.

I heard of a story much like this a life time ago in another town whose streets were plagued with rats, as ours has been during this long siege of sickness.

Could it have been the same magical piper

Officially the report was a seaman and his rat brought the plague upon the town of Weymouth and it is likely true, but there was another part of the story that no one breathed, for it tells of a witch who was cast out and she in her want for vengeance summoned the plagued man to our harbour.

And later called upon the piper to rid the town of the rats.



Some people believed the witch and the piper were the same person and that the deal she or he made with the town was all in the purpose of the witch returning to the town, which might well be a fact once you have read the part of the story that has never been told...until now.

The untold story begins the day the town Mayor reneged on the deal and the piper lured the children in the same way as he did with the rats.



“My Lord Mayor,” Said the Piper in good cheer. “I have rid your town of the rats and their Master, the sea-man. Now I have come for my payment. I believe we agreed upon thirty five Double Florin coins and the return of the witch to her cottage.

“My dear Piper. I recall the sum of 10 that was agreed upon and our town can afford no more. This plague has reaped us dry.” Replied the Mayor, “And we have learned that it was the witch herself who brought on this plague and the council refuses to let her back in the town, but the Piper would not accept this. Said he in an angry voice, “I will give you a week to raise the money and to changed the decision of the council. If in that time you still renege I will take my fee in kind.” Then he turned away abruptly, muttering. “Pay me my due or I shall take your children away and you shall never see them or me again.”

“Be off with you beggar. You will have no pay after such threats upon us. We have had enough of plagues for three life times.” Cried out the Mayor in anger, though a hint of worry was mixed in.

“Such fools are those who tinker with my feelings. In trust I came to their aid when their need was greatest and in return I receive a beggar’s dismissal. Well, they have a week to change their mind. I will hold true to my word.” The Piper said under his breath so the mayor could not hear him.



The week went by and the mayor who was busy with managing the recovery of the town nearly forgot about the Piper, but on the morning of the eighth day the Piper appeared again at the Mayor’s door demanding his payment and the return of the witch.

The Mayor, in a state of frenzy over the chaos still plaguing his town turned on the piper and in a vicious voice cried out. “Be off with you. I have no money and the witch is condemned as a conspirator in the manufacturing of this wretched plague and now we have clear evidence that you are in league with her. You are thus banished from our town and if you ever return we shall clap you in irons and throw you in prison for the remainder of your wretched life.”



MRAHAHAHA TURN THE PAGE IF YOU DARE —————>





The Pied Piper did indeed leave town and never returned but with him he took the children, lured away with the very pipe he had used on the rats and as you may recall, the piper, the children and the rats were never seen in Weymouth again. Nor was the witch. You may also recall that three children were not taken, one deaf. One blind and one lame, who will have an important part in this story a little later.

You will note that the story told here is very similar to the events that took place in the town of Hamelin long ago, but this, my dearest friends, is where our tale changes, the parts of which were never recorded except...well you will learn a little further along how the story managed to survive the ages, though I think modern day skeptics will see this only as a fanciful piece of fiction.



**AND TIME PASSED. THE WORLD CHANGED, BUT THE
REALITY WE KNOW IS NOT THE ONLY ONE THAT EXISTS. SO WATCH FOR,
THE MYSTERY OF PIPER'S HARBOUR, "THE STORY CONTINUES"**